

school faces all the same challenges as most inner-city schools, Charity Dye has shown that challenges can be overcome with hard work and dedication to the cause.

Five years ago, the percentage of third grade students who passed the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress exam at Charity Dye was 30 percent. Last year, this number was 83 percent a gain of 50 percentage points, and nearly 13 percentage points over the statewide average. This is an extraordinary turn around.

Charity Dye has made this progress by internalizing the philosophy of the No Child Left Behind Act and operating under the assumption that every child can learn, and that every child will learn.

I am very pleased to take this opportunity to applaud all the students, teachers, and administrators of Charity Dye Elementary School for their hard work and dedication to learning. I hope that the early love of learning will stay with each of the students of Charity Dye as they progress through school. And I encourage each and every one of Charity Dye's teachers, students, and administrators to keep up the excellent work.

As a former mayor of Indianapolis, I am very proud of IPS Charity Dye Elementary 27 and offer this school as a model of excellence for other schools in Indiana and across the Nation.●

#### HONORING DR. MARIA ALICIA GARZA

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Dr. Maria Alicia Garza, associate professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Boise State University. Dr. Garza has been chosen as the Idaho Professor of the Year by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. This prestigious honor is a tribute to Dr. Garza's outstanding teaching, which touches, motivates, and inspires.

Dr. Garza has been with Boise State since 1996 and has received excellent reviews from Day One. She is recognized by both faculty and students for her knowledge of the subject matter, her infectious enthusiasm, and her thorough preparation. As a result of this dedication, Dr. Garza's students have been motivated to succeed, as they have graduated from BSU and moved into the workforce.

Not surprisingly, this is not the first time Dr. Garza has been recognized for her outstanding efforts. She has also received the Associated Students of Boise State University Faculty Recognition Award, as well as the College of Arts Distinguished Teaching Award during her time at Boise State. The Idaho Professor of the Year award is another example of Dr. Garza's commitment to high quality education in Idaho. I offer my congratulations and highest praise to Dr. Garza, Idaho's Professor of the Year.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. DON DUGI

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute to Dr. Don Dugi professor of political science at Transylvania University located in Lexington, KY on being named the Kentucky Professor of the Year.

The Professor of the Year Awards are the only national awards that recognize college and university professors for their teaching. Since 1981, the Professor of the Year awards have been given to professors who exhibit dedication to teaching and commitment to their students.

Dr. Dugi has exhibited great commitment to his students at Transylvania University. As a professor for political science, Dr. Dugi is tasked to mold our Nation's future leaders. Being honored with this award Dr. Dugi sets an example of excellence for the rest of the faculty and for his students.

Mr. President, I now ask my fellow colleagues join me in thanking Dr. Dugi for his dedication and commitment to the education of America's future. In order for our society to continue to advance in the right direction, we must have professors like Dr. Dugi in our colleges and universities.●

#### PROFESSOR CAROLE GAVIN

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Dr. Carole Gavin, my constituent who was recently named the New Jersey Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. This award is given to professors who demonstrate a high level of dedication to teaching and a commitment to students, and who use innovative instructional methods. Dr. Gavin's dedication to teaching non-English speakers and academic accomplishments make her an outstanding recipient of this award.

As a professor of French and English as a Second Language at Burlington County College in New Jersey, Dr. Gavin has spent the past 22 years devoted to her students. I think she describes her teaching philosophy best: "my primary objective as a professor here at Burlington County College since 1971 has been to help students understand that language, whether it be a foreign language or English, plays a critical role in their success as human beings and professionals."

Dr. Gavin's professional accomplishments include expanding the college's English as a Second Language program into a multi-level, nine-course program that serves over one hundred students from many different countries. Last year, Dr. Gavin received the Association of Community College Teachers', ACCT, Northeast Regional Award. The ACCT describes her as "a stellar member of the Burlington County College faculty," and calls her commitment to her students "exemplary."

In addition to her role as teacher, Dr. Gavin recently underwent one of the most difficult personal challenges an individual can face. Emerging victorious from a battle with breast cancer, Dr. Gavin used her struggle to help others by working with the Phi Theta Kappa honor society to launch the Carole Gavin Scholarship initiative. This scholarship provides active Phi Theta Kappa members, who have been touched by cancer, with financial resources to help defray educational expenses for the Academic Year 2003–2004 while enrolled in either two or four-year institutions.

It has become something of a cliché to describe someone as an inspiration. Nevertheless, the work that Carole Gavin has done both professionally and personally is truly inspirational, and I offer her my deepest congratulations.●

#### TRIBUTE TO VICKY MROCZEK

● Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a remarkable woman—a woman who devoted herself to improving the lives of those often overlooked in our society—the elderly and the poor. The State of Ohio lost one of its most dynamic and compassionate public servants with the passing of Vicky Mroczek on September 28, 2003.

Vicky Mroczek dedicated over 20 years of her career to public service in Ohio, most recently serving as the Chief of the Office of Community Services in the Ohio Department of Development. Since 1985, she administered Ohio's Home Energy Assistance Program, a federally funded program that helps low-income households manage their energy bills. Earlier in her career, she worked for the Ohio Consumer's counsel, representing Ohio's residential customers in utility matters. She also served on the Board of the Central Ohio Transit Authority.

Vicky was also a prominent figure at the national level, working on creative and innovative approaches to helping low-income households afford essential energy services. She served as Chair of the National Low-Income Energy Consortium from 1993 until her death. She also served as Chair of the National Energy Assistance Directors Association from 1990 through 1992.

Vicky Mroczek was an engaging and dynamic public speaker, someone who could engage audiences from the cities to the farms, in local settings to national forums, reaching utility clients, utility executives, and everyone in between. She led with grace, fairness, and most of all, compassion. Her service and dedication to the citizens of Ohio and to low-income families across our Nation is a model to us all. She will be missed.

Vicky's husband of 24 years, George Diehl; her mother Phyllis Mroczek; and her sister, Michelle Mroczek, remain in our thoughts and prayers.●